

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

MAY 12, 2004 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE 8 KC RESIDENTS INDICTED FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that eight area residents were indicted by a federal grand jury today, in separate and unrelated cases, for violating federal firearms law. Today's indictments are part of Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

* **Gerald M. Scruggs**, 43, of Kansas City, Mo., was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Scruggs** was in possession of a J.C. Huggins .22-caliber revolver on Jan. 15, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Scruggs** has a 1987 criminal felony conviction for unlawful use of a weapon.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Jeffrey M. Perry**, 26, of Kansas City, Mo., was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being an unlawful user of a controlled substance in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Perry** was in possession of a Smith and Wesson .38-caliber revolver on Dec. 10, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who is an unlawful user of a controlled substance to possess a firearm. At the time **Perry** possessed the firearm, the indictment alleges, he also was an illegal user of marijuana.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Barnes. It was

investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Tyrone Gill**, 27, of Kansas City, Mo., was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Gill** was in possession of a Phoenix Arms .22-caliber pistol on Oct. 2, 2003. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Gill** has a 1995 criminal felony conviction for receiving stolen property and a 2003 criminal felony conviction for marijuana trafficking.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Barnes. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Michael I. Runions**, 19, of Kansas City, Mo., was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Runions** was in possession of a Davis Industries 9 mm Derringer on Jan. 28, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Runions** has two 2003 criminal felony convictions for receiving stolen property and tampering.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Linda L. Sybrant. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Roosevelt Sims**, 37, of Kansas City, Mo., was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Sims** was in possession of a Super Titan .380-caliber semi-automatic handgun on May 2, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Sims** has a 1999 criminal felony conviction for possession of a controlled substance.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Stefan C. Hughes. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Jermaine D. Williams**, 21, of Kansas City, Mo., was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Williams** was in possession of a Ruger 9 mm semi-automatic pistol on April 21, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Williams** has two 2004 criminal felony convictions for obstructing the legal process and possession of a

controlled substance.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Stefan C. Hughes. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Robin M. Morgan**, 39, of Kansas City, Mo., was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm on two separate occasions.

The federal indictment alleges that **Morgan** was in possession of a Colt .38-caliber handgun on Jan. 24, 2004, and a Davis .32 caliber Derringer on March 26, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Morgan** has three 1997 criminal felony convictions for possession of a controlled substance and one 1997 criminal felony conviction for sale of crack cocaine.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Stefan C. Hughes. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

* **Aaron E. Stanley**, 33, of Kansas City, Mo., was indicted by a federal grand jury in Kansas City for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The federal indictment alleges that **Stanley** was in possession of a Smith and Wesson .357-caliber revolver on May 2, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Stanley** has a 1992 criminal felony conviction for attempted tampering.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Stefan C. Hughes. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in these indictments are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow